
**STATE OF ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION**

COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY	:	
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	:	
Approval of Energy Efficiency and Demand	:	Docket No. 07-0540
Response Plan Pursuant to Section 12-103(f)	:	
Of the Public Utilities Act	:	

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF RALPH ZARUMBA

ON BEHALF OF

THE BUILDING OWNERS AND MANAGERS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO

DECEMBER 14, 2007

1 I. Introduction and Qualifications

2 Q. Please state your name and business address.

3 A. My name is Ralph Zarumba. My business address is 8301 Greensboro
4 Drive, McLean, Virginia, 22102.

5 Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?

6 A. I am employed by Science Applications International Corporation
7 (“SAIC”) as Director – Economic Analysis.

8 Q. On whose behalf are you testifying in this proceeding?

9 A. I am testifying on behalf of The Building Owners and Managers
10 Association of Chicago (“BOMA/Chicago”). BOMA/Chicago is
11 comprised of 260 office building members as well as the 8,000 large and
12 small businesses, governmental agencies, not-for-profit organizations, and
13 other tenants employing over 240,000 people who work in those buildings.
14 BOMA/Chicago’s membership accounts for over 82% of all the office
15 square footage in Chicago and approximately 5% of the total customer
16 load of Commonwealth Edison Company (“ComEd”).

17 Q. Would you please summarize your professional qualifications?

18 A. I have 22 years experience in the energy industry as an economist. My
19 resume is provided in BOMA/Chicago Exhibit 1.1.

20 Q. Have you previously testified before the Illinois Commerce Commission
21 (the “Commission” or “ICC”)?

22 A. Yes, I have testified before the ICC and the state regulatory commissions
23 of Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Wisconsin. I have also testified

before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and appeared as an expert witness in other legal proceedings associated with energy matters.

II. Purpose of Testimony

Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?

A. I preface my direct testimony with the statement that the accelerated schedule in this proceeding is not allowing for an exhaustive investigation of the policies and processes being set forth or an examination of the details for the implementation of the energy efficiency programs proposed by the Company. Although BOMA/Chicago acknowledges that an accelerated schedule has been specified by statute, we also suggest that the Commission allow for flexibility to change programs and policies in the future, especially given that the programs implemented will continue for at least three years.

My testimony addresses the document entitled 2008-10 Energy Efficiency and Demand Response Plan filed by Commonwealth Edison (“ComEd” or “the Company”) in this proceeding and specifically addresses certain issues in the pre-filed testimonies of ComEd Witness Mr. Paul Crumrine. I also have included policy statements regarding electricity pricing and their impact on energy efficiency.

Q. How is the balance of your testimony organized?

A. My testimony is organized as follows:

Section III summarizes my Conclusions and Recommendations;

Section IV addresses my proposed changes to the surcharges that will support the energy efficiency programs addressed in this proceeding; Section V discusses potential problems when energy efficiency is implemented and the utility is not using marginal cost pricing.

III. Conclusions and Recommendations

Q. Please list your conclusions and recommendations.

A. First, BOMA/Chicago is offering an alternative approach to calculating the surcharge mandated by Section 12-103(d). The alternative approach I have sponsored to these calculations better reflects the spirit of the statute and is more equitable to specific customer groups.

Second, the Commission would best serve the needs of the customers if they recognized that providing real time information to customers regarding their electric usage is a cost-effective energy efficiency measure. BOMA/Chicago proposes that ComEd make this information available to customers free or at a minimal cost.

Third, BOMA/Chicago suggests that the Commission reconsider their abandonment of marginal cost analyses in allocating the utility revenue requirement and setting prices. Embracing pricing based upon allocated cost of service analysis while implementing utility administered energy efficiency programs can potentially be counter-productive.

69 IV. Energy Efficiency is Promoted if Energy Usage Information is

70 Inexpensive and Easily Available

71 Q. Is information an important element in implementing electric energy
72 efficiency programs?

73 A. Yes. Information on energy consumption is critical if the goal is the
74 efficient consumption of electric power. First, electric power cannot be
75 stored and therefore the price is extremely volatile. Even a relatively
76 small shift in consumption from one time period to another can potentially
77 trigger significant energy savings, a reduction in the amount of effluents
78 emitted by electric generation and the efficient use of electric power
79 infrastructure. Large commercial office space, such as the type operated
80 by BOMA/Chicago, has the ability to control and shift load from high cost
81 periods to low cost periods. However, real time information is required in
82 order to implement these changes in behavior.

83 Q. Is this information currently available to customer?

84 A. Some information is available at a substantial cost. However,
85 BOMA/Chicago suggests that if this information is being used as part of
86 an energy efficiency program the cost of this information should be
87 considered an energy efficiency program and therefore subsidized using
88 funding collected under Section 12-103(d).

89 Q. Are you aware of any similar programs or studies that support this
90 proposal?

91 A. Yes. First, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio Staff (PUCO Staff) in
92 Docket 05-1500-EL-COI investigated similar issues when investigating
93 the feasibility of Advanced Metering Infrastructure. In the finding of the
94 Staff Report the PUCO Staff found "... that staff should analyze the cost
95 benefit of AMI deployment strategies ... the analysis should include
96 system benefits that may accrue to the EDU, customer benefits, and
97 societal benefits."¹ Although this order does not specifically address the
98 issue of using customer information as an energy efficiency measure, it
99 does acknowledge it's importance for implementing energy efficiency and
100 demand response programs. Furthermore, this order finds that systems

¹ <http://dis.puc.state.oh.us/DocumentRecord.aspx?DocID=764CDA674553D8F5852571D80068385F>

101 benefits accrue to electric distribution companies from the implementation
102 of this strategy.

103 Q. Are you aware of any studies which conclude that providing additional
104 metering and information capabilities can reduce the emission of
105 effluents?

106 A. Yes. A United Kingdom group, the Carbon Trust, has published a report
107 that estimates a significant reduction in carbon emissions for small to
108 medium-sized businesses. The executive summary of this report is
109 provided as BOMA Exhibit 1.2.

110 Q. Is BOMA/Chicago proposing the implementation of AMI on a system-
111 wide basis?

112 A. No. An investment of that magnitude is significant and requires careful
113 investigation before such a commitment is placed upon the Company. The
114 BOMA/Chicago proposal much more modest. BOMA/Chicago is
115 proposing that electric consumption information on a basis that would
116 enable the implementation of demand response be considered as an energy
117 efficiency program and be provided subsidies like many of the other
118 measures proposed in this proceeding.

119 Q. What additional equipment is required by the customer that is currently
120 not being provided by the Company?

121 A. First, in order to react to price signals from organizations such as PJM,
122 interval meters and data feeds require much smaller intervals than have
123 been provided in the past. For example, ComEd's tariffs have
124 traditionally been based upon 30 minute integrated demand readings.
125 However, in order to react to PJM price signals the interval must be
126 shortened to 5 minutes.

127 Q. Is this equipment available from ComEd?

128 A. Potentially, but at a significant cost to the customer. For example, some
129 residential customers have real time meters in order to participate in the
130 residential real time program. For larger customers, this equipment is the
131 missing lynchpin in establishing discerning efficiency investment
132 opportunities and participation in robust demand response programs.

133

134 VI. Calculation of Section 12-103(d) Surcharges

135 Q. Have you reviewed ComEd Witness Crumrine's calculation of the Section
136 12-103(d) surcharges (ComEd Exhibits 5.1-5.3)?

137 A. Yes.

138 Q. Do you agree with Mr. Crumrine's approach to this calculation?

139 A. No. I disagree with Mr. Crumrine's approach to this calculation and have
140 submitted an alternative calculation of the surcharge.

141 Q. Please describe your process for the review and the development of your
142 alternative calculations of the surcharge.

143 A. The information for the basis of my alternative calculation of the
144 surcharge was ComEd Exhibits 5.2 and 5.3. These schedules detail the
145 estimated average cost of electric service by distribution delivery class.

146 Q. Have you performed an exhaustive review of these calculations and their
147 inputs?

148 A. No. Given the accelerated schedule associated with this proceeding I was
149 unable to perform a detailed review. Therefore, my testimony should not
150 be interpreted as endorsing the assumptions or calculations in ComEd
151 Exhibits 5.2 and 5.3. For example, Mr. Crumrine (Crumrine Direct page
152 14 line 320-332) states that the prices paid by customers receiving service
153 were estimated using various inputs including the output of a market price
154 forecast produced by the Northbridge Group. A reasonable review of such
155 a model requires a significant effort reviewing the inputs such as
156 projections of fuel prices, growth in peak load and sales, macroeconomic
157 assumptions such as the overall level of inflation, assumptions about the
158 installed cost, efficiency and non-fuel operations and maintenance of new
159 generation technology (e.g. combined-cycle combustion turbines, simple-

160 cycle combustion turbines, coal plants, wind plants and other
161 technologies) and other critical inputs. The next step of such a review
162 would be to evaluate the internal algorithm used by the model to produce
163 the results and determine if it is appropriate for the proposed study.
164 Furthermore, market price models have different algorithms for producing
165 price forecasts which are appropriate or inappropriate depending upon the
166 use of the forecast and a review would require assurance that the specific
167 algorithm used in that model was appropriate for the specific analysis in
168 question. Last, a review of the output must be performed in ensure
169 internal consistency with the input assumptions and overall
170 reasonableness.

171 Q. Please describe you Exhibit BOMA 1.3

172 A. Column (a), (b) and (c) in BOMA Exhibit 1.3, page 1 correspond to June
173 1, 2006 through May 31, 2007 time period for ComEd Exhibit 5.1,
174 Columns (A), (B) and (C). In other words, I have adopted the calculations
175 and assumptions sponsored by Mr. Crumrine (but do not necessarily
176 endorse the underlying calculations or assumptions). Pages 2 and 3 of
177 BOMA Exhibit 1.3 is the same information for June 1, 2007 through May
178 31, 2008 and June 1, 2008 through May 31, 2009.

179 Q. Does your proposed calculation differ from the Company's proposal at
180 this juncture?

181 A. Yes. BOMA Exhibit 1.3, page 4 details the alternative calculation by
182 distribution delivery class. Please note, the total for ComEd as a whole
183 match those proposed by the Company in ComEd Exhibit 5.3, Column G.
184 The average factor for 2008 is 0.042¢/KWH, the average factor for 2009 is
185 0.086¢/KWH and the average factor for 2010 is 0.132¢/KWH.

186 Q. Does your alternative calculation of the Section 12-103(d) surcharge the
187 total revenues received from retail customer or expose ComEd to any
188 additional risk?

189 A. No. The alternative approach that is detailed below does not: (1) Reduce
190 the level of revenues which the Company will collect from customers; (2)
191 Expose the Company to an increased or decreased level of risk of over- or
192 under-collection of revenues; and, (3) In no way will impede the Company
193 from implementing any programs proposed in this proceeding when
194 compared to their version of the calculation.

195 Q. How does your calculation differ from the one proposed by Mr. Crumrine?

196 A. The alternative calculation that I propose differentiates customers by
197 Distribution Delivery Class and proposes a volumetric rate (cents per
198 KWH) which is applied to each Distribution Delivery Class. In contrast,
199 Mr. Crumrine's calculation creates a single factor applied to all retail
200 customers of the Company.

201 Q. Does the alternative calculation provide for a more equitable collection of
202 revenues?

203 A. Yes. The difference between the alternative approach and the method
204 proposed by ComEd Witness Crumrine is the application of the Section
205 12-103(d) surcharge. Mr. Crumrine's proposal applies the surcharge to
206 the total retail revenues of the company. In contrast, I apply the percentage
207 to each retail rate class.

208 Q. Do you feel that the ComEd Proposal is consistent with the legislation?

209 A. First, I am not an attorney and cannot render a legal opinion. However,
210 from a policy standpoint I cannot accept the proposed ComEd calculation
211 after reviewing the legislation. I suggest that the alternative proposal
212 which I propose is superior from a policy standpoint and is consistent with
213 the legislation. In the alternative, I would find it reasonable to group
214 customers of similar size/characteristics together for the purposes of
215 calculating the surcharge.

216 Q. Please summarize your conclusion.

217 A. I recommend that the Commission reject the Company's calculation of the
218 Section 12-103(d) surcharge and adopt the approach I have proposed.

219

220 VII. Requiring Energy Efficiency While Setting Prices Based Upon Average

221 Cost is Counter Productive

222 Q. What approach is currently used by ComEd for their cost of service
223 analyses?

224 A. The Company currently uses Fully Allocated Cost of Service Studies to
225 allocate costs and establish pricing.

226 Q. Do you feel that any inefficiencies are introduced when using pricing
227 determined from an Allocated Cost of Service Study while simultaneously
228 implementing energy efficiency?

229 A. Yes. A utility implementing energy efficiency is doing so because certain
230 segments of electric usage is in excess of marginal cost. However, an
231 Allocated Cost of Service Study is based upon average cost principles. A
232 difference can exist between the marginal cost price signal associated with
233 energy efficiency and the average cost price signal associated with the
234 utility tariff. The difference between the two price signals could trigger
235 customer confusion.

236 Q. Do you propose any specific action in this proceeding regarding ComEd's
237 electric tariffs?

238 A. No. This matter should be addressed in a general rate case such as the one
239 that the Company currently has filed before the Commission. However,

240 the design of a utility tariff can influence the effectiveness of energy
241 efficiency programs such as the one that is being debated in this
242 proceeding.

243 Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

244 A. Yes.